Drier weather as 2013 gets underway

31 December 2012 - After a thoroughly wet run up to Christmas and some wet and windy weather over the last few days, Met Office forecasters are predicting some drier weather early in the New Year.

2012 is currently the 4th wettest year for the UK since records began in 1910 and with the rainfall over the last few days, the likelihood of it becoming a new record is being closely watched. Provisional figures should be available from Thursday, 3 January.

In the meantime there are signs of much drier and more settled weather on the cards for England and Wales, with high pressure building from the south by the end of the week.

While there will be some sunny spells, conditions are expected to be cloudy for many areas through this more settled period.

Eddy Carroll, Chief Forecaster at the Met Office, said: "We are expecting some showers for western parts of the UK this evening, and some hill snow for western Scotland, but during New Year's Day pressure will start to build from the south.

"This will give much more settled conditions for many parts of the country, but outbreaks of rain will still affect Scotland and Northern Ireland at times. This change to much drier weather looks set to last into the first weekend of January and the following week."

The latest forecasts and warnings can be found on the Met Office website, on our mobile apps , and through TV and radio broadcasts on the BBC and ITV.

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